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Gardena School Employee Charged with Lewd Conduct with Students

An employee at an after school program at Amestoy Elementary School in Gardena has been charged with molesting four students, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Daniel Ayon (dob 3/24/80) faces six felony counts: one count of oral copulation or sexual penetration with child 10 years or younger, two counts of continuous sexual abuse and three counts of lewd act upon a child under age 14.

Deputy District Attorney Mike Vela said the charges include allegations of substantial sexual conduct with a minor and of committing the crime against more than one victim.

Ayon pleaded not guilty to the charges yesterday and is scheduled to return on July 1 in Department 4 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Torrance Branch. Case YA100326 was filed for warrant on June 12.

The defendant is alleged to have sexually assaulted four boys ages 10 and 11 over the last year at the school, the prosecutor said.

Bail is set at \$3 million. Ayon faces a possible maximum sentence of 140 years to life in state prison if convicted as charged.

The case remains under investigation by the Gardena Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.